

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) A method in a data processing system for identifying device configurations, the method comprising:
 - identifying unique identification information for a set of devices in the data processing system to form identified unique identification information;
 - comparing the identified unique identification information with previously identified unique identification information;
 - moving configuration data to a memory for devices in the set of devices in which a match exists between the identified unique identification information and the previously identified unique identification information for devices; and
 - obtaining configuration information from a device in which configuration information is absent in the memory after configuration data has been moved to the memory for the devices to form a current set of configuration data for the set of devices.
2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the memory is a temporary random access memory comprising an area for maintaining the previously identified unique identification information and another area for maintaining the moved configuration data while the obtaining configuration information is being performed.
3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the unique identification information is a unique device identifier.
4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the current configuration data for the set of devices is stored in a set of files.
5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the unique identification information is identified by reading the unique identification information from the set of devices.
6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the previously identified unique identification information is ~~stored in~~ accessed using a table associated with the configuration data for the

set of devices, wherein the table comprises (i) an index used to locate particular configuration data for a particular device, (ii) information used to address the particular device, and (iii) an offset to a memory location within the particular device at which particular unique identifier information for the particular device is stored.

7. (Currently Amended) A data processing system for identifying device configurations, the data processing system comprising a memory for storing data, and further comprising:

identifying means for identifying unique identification information for a set of devices in the data processing system to form identified unique identification information;

comparing means for comparing the identified unique identification information with previously identified unique identification information;

moving means for moving configuration data to ~~[[a]]~~ the memory for devices in the set of devices in which a match exists between the identified unique identification information and the previously identified unique identification information for devices; and

obtaining means for obtaining configuration information from a device in which configuration information is absent in the memory after configuration data has been moved to the memory for the devices to form a current set of configuration data for the set of devices.

8. (Currently Amended) The data processing system of claim 7, wherein the memory is a temporary random access memory comprising an area for maintaining the previously identified unique identification information and another area for maintaining the moved configuration data while the obtaining configuration information is being performed.

9. (Original) The data processing system of claim 7, wherein the unique identification information is a unique device identifier.

10. (Original) The data processing system of claim 7, wherein the current configuration data for the set of devices is stored in a set of files.

11. (Original) The data processing system of claim 7, wherein the unique identification information is identified by read the unique identification information from the set of devices.

12. (Currently Amended) The data processing system of claim 7, wherein the previously identified unique identification information is ~~stored in~~ accessed using a table associated with the configuration data

for the set of devices, wherein the table comprises (i) an index used to locate particular configuration data for a particular device, (ii) information used to address the particular device, and (iii) an offset to a memory location within the particular device at which particular unique identifier information for the particular device is stored.

13. (Currently Amended) A computer program product encoded in a computer readable medium for identifying device configurations, the computer program product comprising:

first instructions for identifying unique identification information for a set of devices in the data processing system to form identified unique identification information;

second instructions for comparing the identified unique identification information with previously identified unique identification information;

third instructions for moving configuration data to a memory for devices in the set of devices in which a match exists between the identified unique identification information and the previously identified unique identification information for devices; and

fourth instructions for obtaining configuration information from a device in which configuration information is absent in the memory after configuration data has been moved to the memory for the devices to form a current set of configuration data for the set of devices.

14. (Currently Amended) The computer program product of claim 13, wherein the memory is a temporary random access memory comprising an area for maintaining the previously identified unique identification information and another area for maintaining the moved configuration data while the obtaining configuration information is being performed.

15. (Original) The computer program product of claim 13, wherein the unique identification information is a unique device identifier.

16. (Original) The computer program product of claim 13, wherein the current configuration data for the set of devices is stored in a set of files.

17. (Original) The computer program product of claim 13, wherein the unique identification information is identified by read the unique identification information from the set of devices.

18. (Currently Amended) The computer program product of claim 13, wherein the previously identified unique identification information is ~~stored in~~ accessed using a table associated with the

configuration data for the set of devices, wherein the table comprises (i) an index used to locate particular configuration data for a particular device, (ii) information used to address the particular device, and (iii) an offset to a memory location within the particular device at which particular unique identifier information for the particular device is stored.

19. (Currently Amended) A data processing system for performing device configuration rediscovery, the data processing system comprising:

a bus system;

a communications unit connected to the bus system;

a memory connected to the bus system, wherein the memory includes a set of instructions; and

a processing unit connected to the bus system, wherein the processing unit executes the set of instructions to identify unique identification information for a set of devices in the data processing system to form identified unique identification information; compare the identified unique identification information with previously identified unique identification information; move configuration data to [[a]] another memory for devices in the set of devices in which a match exists between the identified unique identification information and the previously identified unique identification information for devices; and obtain configuration information from a device in which configuration information is absent in the memory after configuration data has been moved to the memory for the devices to form a current set of configuration data for the set of devices.

20. (New) The data processing system of claim 19, wherein the previously identified unique identification information is accessed using a table associated with the configuration data for the set of devices, wherein the table comprises (i) an index used to locate particular configuration data for a particular device, (ii) information used to address the particular device, and (iii) an offset to a memory location within the particular device at which particular unique identifier information for the particular device is stored.